

Green County
Agriculture and Extension Education Committee
November 6, 2019 MINUTES

The November 6th, 2019 meeting of the Agriculture and Extension Education Committee was called to order at 12:30 PM by Chair Ken Hodgson. Members present were: Ken Hodgson, Oscar Olson, Art Carter, Jody Hoesly and Erica Roth. Also present—Paul Ohlrogge, Extension Area Director, Jayne Butts, Extension Green County Office Manager, Victoria Solomon, Community Resource Development Educator and Ellen Andrews, 4H Youth Development Educator.

Motion to approve the minutes of the October 2019 meeting was made by Olson, second Hoesly. Motion carried.

Green County Educator Reports—

- **Ellen Andrews:** Discussed recent Explore 4H Day which had attendance increased by 68% this year. 4H Officer Training was held last night and was very successful. 4H Enrollment is on the rise! Biggest population is 6th grade—Juda has the most represented population.
- **Victoria Solomon:** Discussed the ongoing use of data from the Belleville Market Analysis that was completed in 2017. A participant, Dia de los muertos, from The Youth In Government program, has continued to have good support from the community. She recently was the appointed organizer of a community event held in Brodhead. Water Trend Program—After a meeting in September with key stakeholders, the invitation to participate mailing has been sent, with hopes for 240 responses by December 1st. After completion of the Water Trend Program, data will be accessible to people. Butts noted the funding approved for a 2019 payment for the Water Trends Program was converted to non-lapsing funds via the budget, for payment in 2020. Annual Groundwater Testing will be done in the Spring for the Towns of Monroe & Cadiz, possibly also Jordan & Clarno—waiting to hear back from those communities.
- **Jackie McCarville:** Ohlrogge announced McCarville has recently attended Farm Succession Training.

The committee reviewed the UW-Extension office bills for October 2019. The EFT payments totaled \$362.77 and the check payments totaled \$176.08. Motion made by Roth, second by Hoesly, to approve the vouchers for payment. Motion carried. Butts discussed the new “P Card”-Credit Card system and with the statement cutoff being the 7th of the month, we will always be behind on approving the bills paid. Opting to pay for as much as possible on this system to reap the benefits of the rebates, Butts has also questioned paying the University of Wisconsin contract payment via Credit Card. Ohlrogge will follow up.

Ohlrogge presented the **2020 County-University of Wisconsin Division of Extension contract** for the committee’s review. Ohlrogge said all 4-positions are now billed at the same base rate, with the exception of the Health & Well Being position at 60%. Invoicing for the contract is done in two installments throughout the year. Butts noted in comparing the contract to last year, the major change was the name from University of Wisconsin-Cooperative Extension to University of Wisconsin-Division of Extension. The contract was reviewed by Corporate Counsel, who noted the contract is pretty safe with the “60-Day No-Fault Termination Clause”. Carter moved to approve the contract, Olson second. Motion passed.

Paul Ohlrogge, Area Extension Director/Jayne Butts, Office Manager, Extension Green County:

Health and Well Being Educator: Ohlrogge advised the Health and Well Being position had 16 applicants, which has been narrowed to 4 for the first round of interviews being done on Monday. After the interviews, the hope is to have 2 applicants to interview with the County Committees. Ohlrogge will keep us posted. Butts was contacted about a similar position created with the same name through the Green County Health Department and questioned if this would have been necessary if this position would have been fulltime. The Green County Health Department is changing the name of their position to Public Health Educator with a goal to partner with the Extension Health and Well Being position.

Food Wise Nutrition Educator: Ohlrogge noted after the interviews last month and offering the position to two different candidates who denied being hired, the position has been reposted and will close November 13th.

Regional Water Specialist: Ohlrogge met with County Partners, Land and Water Personnel, and Agriculture Extension Educators for discussion of the Regional Water Specialist position. While there is much interest regarding the position, after going through budgeting procedures, Ohlrogge advised the Natural Resource Department, no funds are available from the Counties to provide support at this time. Ohlrogge further noted they are moving forward to fill the position and will obtain funding from the DNR and DATCP Water Shed funds. Other funding sources may also be available.

Other Business: After receiving complaints, Butts questioned smoking happening within the building lobby. While the grounds and building are labeled “no smoking”, it has increasingly gotten worse creating a cloud of smoke in the entrance area. Butts expressed concern for families/youth and other clientele entering the building for public meetings. Discussion resulted in that employees should not be smoking out front and will be directed to go out back. Groups using the Multi-Purpose Rooms will be reviewed for this as well. Carter will have discussions with Mike Doyle.

The next meeting will be scheduled for January 8th, 2020 at 12:30pm. Board members will be contacted to approve December bills.

Motion by Hoesly, second by Carter to adjourn at 1:30 pm. Motion carried.